(ii) Upgrade on space available basis on full fare tickets to Government of India officials of the rank of Under Secretary or equivalent and above to the next higher class of entitlement.

(iii) Complimentary stay at hotel on bed and breakfast basis and transport at any of the 6 long haul stations (New York, Chicago, London, Paris, Osaka and Tokyo) only once for journey performed on full fare return tickets issued in India.

(iv) Additional baggage allowance on Air India services to Government of India officials travelling on transfer for one year or more.

(c) and (d) Air India does not offer special concessions to Government servants travelling on personal journeys.

Sale of air tickets by authorised companies

†2079. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several firms have been authorised for sale of air tickets by the Department of Civil Aviation;

(b) if so, the total number of firms so authorised till June, 2002;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a directive to this effect is included in the agreement while authorising that under sub rule 5 (f) of the agreement no authorised firm would sell tickets below the fixed price;

(d) if so, whether Government have received any complaints in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPADYESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) The Department of Civil Aviation does not authorise sale of air tickets. However Air India and Indian Airlines appoint agents for passenger and cargo sales. The total number

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of such agents appointed by Air India in India Region are approximately 1800 and total number of Indian Airlines approved agency location within India was 1707.

(c) The sub rule 5(f) does not relate to Air Inidia which sells through IATA agents under BSP plan. The sub rule 5(f) of the agreement signed with agents who have been appointed for sale of tickets on domestic sectors states that "agent will have no authority to vary the selling price established by the Airlines. The agent will sell tickets only at the prices established by the Airlines".

(d) to (f) There is no such complaints on Air India. There was a complaint that some Passenger Sales Agents of Indian Airlines in Patna were offering 2½% to 3% rebate to SBI, Patna which was violative of clause 5(f) of the Agreement. The investigation conducted in the matter did not find any substance in the complaints.

There were anonymous complaints that three Passenger Sales Agents of Indian Airlines were selling tickets at discounted price. The matter was taken up with the concerned agents and corrective action was taken.

Review of agreements on foreign flights

†2080. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to review the agreements pertaining to foreign flights; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPADYESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Review of bilateral agreements for operation of foreign airlines from different airports in the country is an ongoing process. This is done from time to time depending on traffic demand and reciprocity of benefit accruing to the Indian carriers. As a part of this process, bilateral civil aviation talks have been held this year with Iran, Jordan, Afghanistan, Italy, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Qatar and UK. Apart from increase in entitlement, designated airlines of Sri Lanka,

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